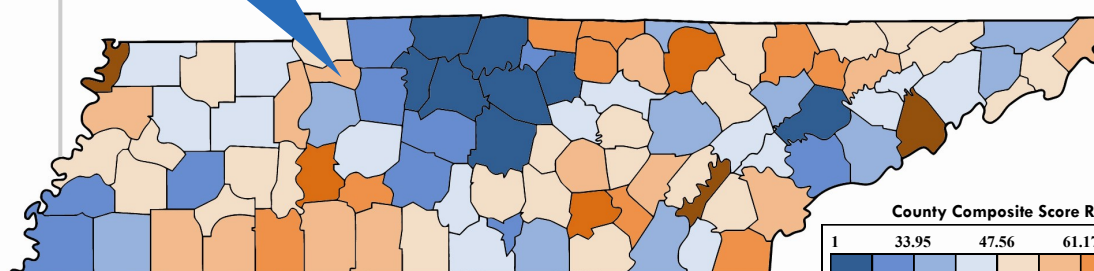
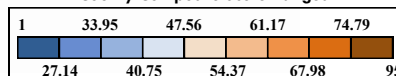


The Status of Women in Tennessee Counties

SNAPSHOT: HOUSTON COUNTY



County Composite Score Ranges



Ranges defined as 0.5 standard deviations from the mean score of 47.56.

INSIDE

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Population (2010): **8,426**Pop. Density: **40.4/square mile**Seat of Government: **Erin**Largest City: **Erin**

COUNTY	RANK	INDICATOR SCORES & RANKINGS	DATA	RANK
Benton	70	Employment and Earnings Composite	66.80	85 ▼
Warren	71	Median Annual Earnings for Full Time Employed Females*	\$24,277	53 ▼
Bledsoe	72	Wage Gap (Female Earnings as a Percentage of Male Earnings)	70.22	77 ▲
Lawrence	73	Female Labor Force Participation Rate (Ages 20-64)	58.0%	85 ▲
Dyer	74	Female Unemployment Rate (Ages 20-64)	10.4%	72 ▼
Overton	75	Percent of Management Occupations Held by Women	41.5%	11 ▲
Hardeman	76	Economic Autonomy Composite	50.75	58 ▲
McNairy	77	Women-owned Businesses Percent of Total	17.8%	84 ▲
Grainger	78	Percent of Females with 4-Year Degree or More (Age 25+)	8.8%	88 ▼
Houston	79	Percent of Females with High School Diploma or Equivalent (Age 25+)	81.6%	25 ▲
Johnson	80	Female High School Dropout Rate	0.16%	14 ▼
Clay	81	Percent of Women Uninsured (65 and under)	16.6%	61 ▼
Polk	82	Percent of Females Below Poverty Level	21.8%	67 ▲
Hardin	83	Percent of Female-Headed Households with Children in Poverty*	52.1%	66 ▲
Lewis	84	Rate of Pregnancy for Girls Age 15-19 per 1000*	0	1 ▲
Jackson	85	County Overview: Women in Houston County have reached high rates of high school graduation, have a significant presence in the management of local businesses, and have made moderate progress in wages relative to men in the county. Additionally, the deterioration of health insurance and ballooning of poverty rates seen state-wide were somewhat less drastic in Houston. However, local poverty rates already ranked in the bottom 25 of the state in 2000, and are higher in 2010—particularly among single mothers. Sluggish wages, an unemployment rate that affects one in ten women, and one of the worst rates of degree attainment in the state combine with many of these factors to drag Houston down three spots, to 79th, overall.		
Sequatchie	86			
Union	87			
Campbell	88			

Down from 76th

Note: all figures are based on estimates formed from sample data and are subject to sample error and rounding.

* The American Community Survey (ACS) is an annual demographic survey of the U.S. It provides the detailed demographic, economic and housing data that was once supplied by the Decennial Census Long Form. The ACS has a smaller sample so combines several years' data to produce multi-year estimates. Due to the small sample size there is an increased margin of error in many less populated counties for this indicator.

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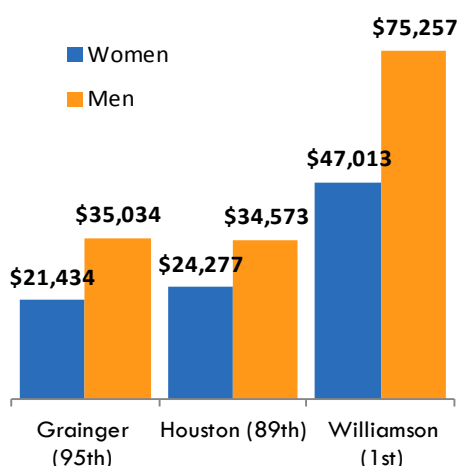
‡ Estimates are too unreliable or not available to be included in composite calculations. Any figure shown is an estimate for the reader's benefit only.

The Status of Women in: Houston County

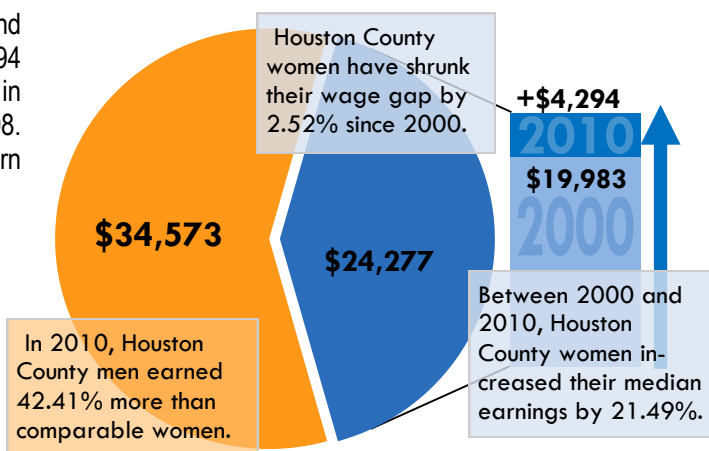
◆ Earnings

Houston County women have made anemic gains in median income since 2000, dropping in relative ranking from 74th to 85th and falling behind inflation rates by five percent. The increase of \$4,294 was among the smallest in the state, and women in Houston now trail the statewide median by \$7,308. Local men experienced even slower growth, but earn the 63rd ranked income in the state among males.

Median Earnings: Counties Compared



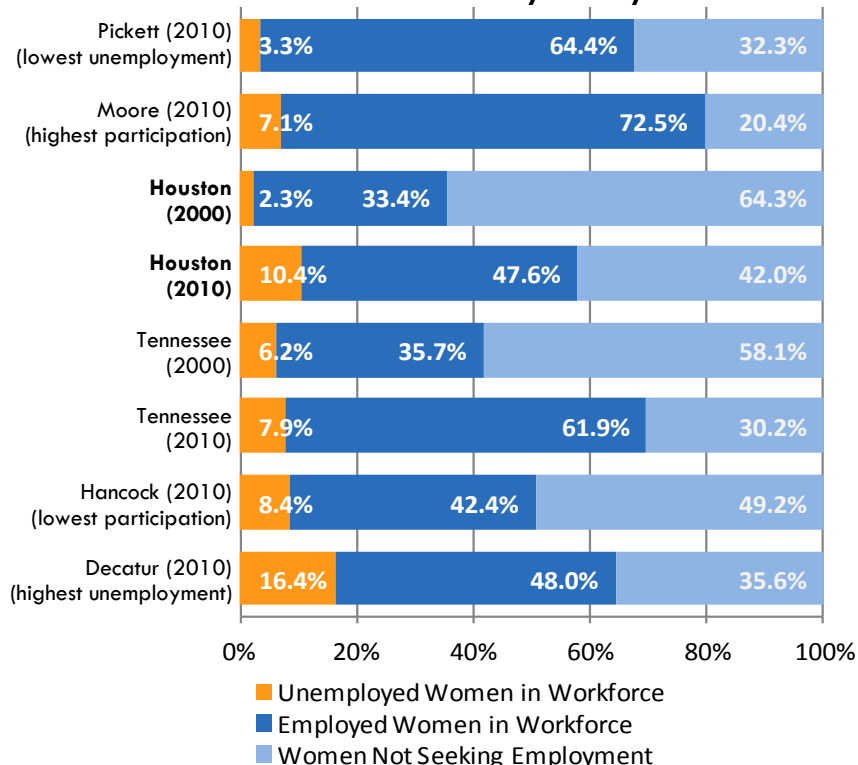
Median Earnings and the Wage Gap, 2000-2010



Pitted against the slow growth of male incomes, women in Houston County chipped away at the still-substantial wage disparity between genders. As of 2010, women in the county earned only 70.22 percent of the wages than local men earn, but moved up slightly in rank from 81st to 77th. When compared to statewide rates, this wage gap is not only greater than the 2010 rate, which estimates that Tennessee women earn 77 percent of men, but also the 2000 figure of 72 percent.

▲ Employment

Workforce Access for Women By County and Year



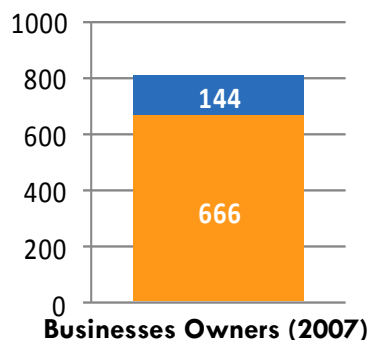
Women in Houston County participate in the workforce at a low rate of 58 percent, and growth in this category has been much slower in Houston than in most counties. However, Houston women have entered the workforce at a higher rate than women in many of the lowest ranked counties, resulting in a modest bump from 90th in 2000 to 85th in 2010.

Unfortunately, women have joined the workforce at a much faster rate than local job creation allowed for. Rocketing up from the second lowest rate (2.3 percent) in 2000, unemployment has reached 10.4 percent of all women in the county ages 20-64, and ranks 72nd in the state.

While men are more likely than women to join the workforce (77.3 percent) and less likely to be unemployed (7.6 percent), one-third of all mothers with young children are estimated to be jobless.

The Status of Women in: Houston County

■ Female Owned ■ Male Owned



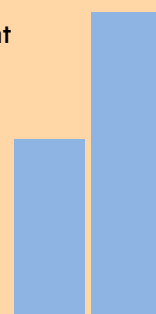
Women in Houston County hold over 40 percent of the managerial positions available, up substantially from 24.2 percent in 2000. Due to this notable growth, Houston County has soared from 72nd to 11th in this indicator and now leads the state rate of 36 percent significantly.

Ownership data does not exist for 2000, but Houston County women were estimated to own only 17.8 percent of local businesses in 2007, trailing the state rate of 22.6 percent and ranking 84th.

Women At Work

Business Management

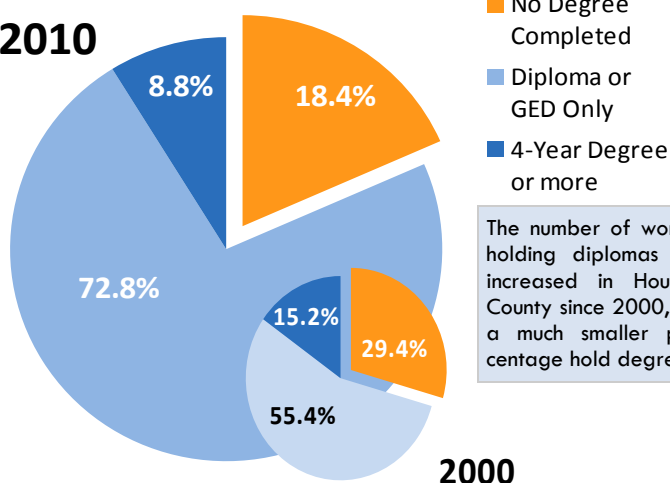
The proportion of managerial positions in Houston County that are held by women increased dramatically, from 24.2% to 41.5%, between 2000 and 2010. This represents one of the largest increases during that time and is the 11th highest rate in the state.



Education

Educational Attainment Above Age 25

2010



The number of women holding diplomas has increased in Houston County since 2000, but a much smaller percentage hold degrees.

The proportion of women in Houston County who have neither a degree nor a diploma has diminished significantly since 2000, but the rate at which women have completed college has also decreased, resulting in mixed results in statewide rankings.

The decrease from 15.2 percent to 8.8 percent in the rate of women with degrees has resulted in a drop from 18th to 88th in state rankings, while the proportion of women with a high school diploma equivalent or greater is 11 percent higher, and has increased 17 ranks to 25th.

The dropout rate of 0.16 percent was much better than most of the state, and was ranked 14th.

Living

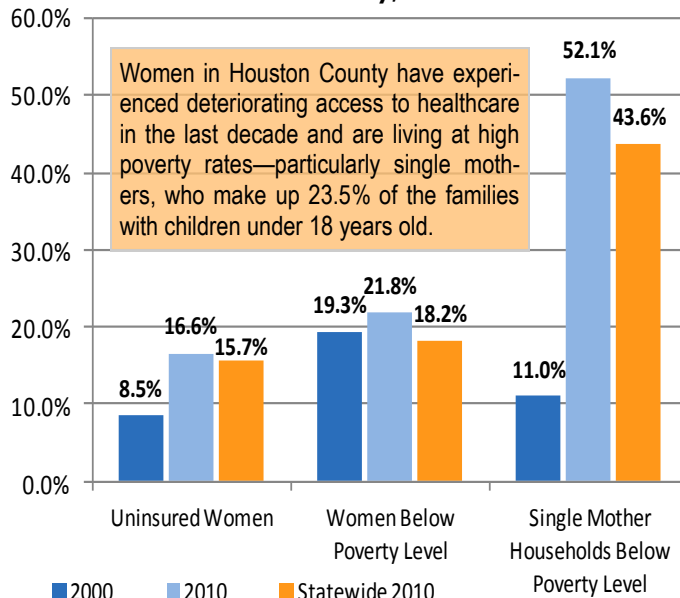
Between 2000 and 2010, Houston County women saw a decrease in health care access as well as an increase in poverty, which exceeded statewide trends.

Women in the county were nearly twice as likely to go without health insurance in 2010 as they were in 2000, and were 0.9 percent less likely to be insured than women in Tennessee, overall. This increase was resulted in a drop of nine places to 61st in state rankings.

In both overall poverty and rates among single mothers, Houston's numbers grew and are among the lower third of counties in the state; at 67th and 66th. However, Houston's experiences were less dismal than some states in the bottom half of rankings, and the county actually improved in these categories, from 77th and 73rd, respectively.

Of particular note, single mothers were almost five times as likely to live in poverty in 2010 as they were in 2000, and were more than twice as likely to do so as the average woman in Tennessee or Houston.

Health and Poverty Indicators for Women: Houston County, 2000-2010



Women in Houston County have experienced deteriorating access to healthcare in the last decade and are living at high poverty rates—particularly single mothers, who make up 23.5% of the families with children under 18 years old.

About the Council and this Report

The **Status of Women in Tennessee Counties** report offers an economic profile of women in each county of Tennessee and examines how women's rights and equality vary among the counties. The report presents data and overall rankings in two categories of women's economic status: employment and earnings and economic autonomy. Indicators of women's status in each category make up the composite rankings of the counties.

The employment and earnings section presents data on women's annual earnings, the earnings gender gap, female labor force participation rate, the female unemployment rate, and the percent of management occupations held by women.

The economic autonomy section includes information on the percentage of businesses owned by women, educational attainment levels, percentage of women with any kind of health insurance, percentage of women living in poverty and percentage of single female-headed households living in poverty, the female high school dropout rate and the teen pregnancy rate.

The **Tennessee Economic Council on Women** was created in 1998 by the Tennessee General Assembly to assess Tennessee women's economic status. The Council develops and advocates solutions to address women's needs in order to help women achieve economic autonomy. In setting its priorities, the Council selects issues that are timely and likely to result in positive changes for women.

Research & Authorship by:

William Arth, Senior Research Manager &
Julia Reynolds-Thompson, Fmr Research Analyst

Visit the Economic Council on Women at www.tennesseewomen.org

SOURCES	
Employment and Earnings	
Median Annual Earnings for Full Time Employed Females	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Selected Economic Characteristics' *
Wage Gap (Female Earnings as Percent of Male Earnings)	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Selected Economic Characteristics'
Female Labor Force Participation Rate	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Employment Status'
Female Unemployment Rate	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Employment Status'
Percent of Management Occupations Held by Women	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Occupation by Sex and Median Earnings in the Past 12 Months for Full-Time, Year-Round Civilian Employed Population, 16 year and older'
Economic Autonomy	
Women-Owned Businesses Percent of Total	U.S. Census Bureau, 2007 Survey of Business Owners 'Statistics for All U.S. Firms by Industry, Gender, Ethnicity, and Race...' † ‡
Percent of Females with 4-Yr Degree or More (Age 25+)	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Educational Attainment'
Percent of Females with High School Diploma (Age 25+)	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Educational Attainment'
Female High School Dropout Rate	Tennessee Department of Education, 2011-2012 School Year
Percent of Women Uninsured (65 or under)	U.S. Census Bureau, Small Area Health Insurance Estimates
Percent of Women Below Poverty Level	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months'
Percent of Female-headed Households with Children in Poverty	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Poverty Status in the Past 12 Months of Families' *
Rate of Pregnancy for Girls 15-19 (per 1000)	U.S. Census Bureau, 2006-2010 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates 'Fertility' *

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